

July 20, 2025

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP GOD

**Rise in body or in spirit...(as indicated below)*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Dan Miller

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT (Hymnal 681, v.2)

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

NUN DANKET ALL’UD BRINGET EHR

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 66*

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

All: We will say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

One: All the earth worships you;

All: And we will sing praises to your holy name.

One: Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we would like the road map of our life laid out before us. We want to know where we are going. Any unexpected twists and turns disconcert us. When we hear you calling us to a task we do not want to do or a road we do not want to take, we argue and construct reasons why we cannot.

Forgive the rationalizations we present to you as reasons, the resistance that is most often grounded in fear and unbelief. Forgive our reliance on ourselves and our lack of trust in you, the willfulness that turns away from your will for our lives and the refusal to hear and believe your assurance of the journey. Forgive us all that is past, and free us to a new and living faith in you, through Christ our risen Lord,

Silent Prayer - How has God brought life from dead places in your life?

AMEN.

*KYRIE ELEISON

KINGDOM

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

One: Through the power of Jesus’ death and resurrection we are offered new life and a reconciled relationship with God!

All: We believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Praise be to God!

*RESPONDING WITH PRAISE

Glory Be to the Father (Hymnal 581)

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Dr. Lee Zehmer

(All children are welcome in Children’s Church with Ms. Janelle.)

ANTHEM

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need RESIGNATION/arr. Virgil Thomson

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his Name. In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways. He leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay. One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days. O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come. No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 12:54-56; 13:6-9

(Pew Bible, p. 71)

Isaiah 43:19

(Pew Bible, p. 632)

THE SERMON

Can You Change the Course of a River?

Dr. Lee Zehmer



Before Hurricane



After Hurricane

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

What is God saying to you through Scripture, sermon and song?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 432

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from A Declaration of Faith (2:1)*

God created all the worlds that are

and upholds and rules everything.

We affirm that the universe exists

by the power of God's Word and Spirit.

God has chosen to give it reality

out of the love we have come to know in Christ.

God still works

through the processes that shape and change the earth

and the living things upon it.

We acknowledge God's care and control

in the regularity of the universe

as well as in apparently random happenings.

There is no event from which God is absent

and his ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving.

That purpose embraces our choices

and will surely be accomplished.

The Creator works in all things

toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please touch the plate as it is passed to offer your time, talents, and tithes to God.

OFFERTORY

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Charles Ore

*RESPONSE: *The Doxology* (Hymnal 606)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, you have blessed us with all that we need and often more than we need. Help us receive what you give with grace. In turn, help us be generous — with our monetary gifts, our possessions, our talents and our time. We ask that you accept and consecrate all these gifts to further your work in the world. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*CLOSING HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION (Hymnal 295, v. 1)

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Fanfare

David German

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by George and Betty White and in loving memory of their granddaughter Megan Elizabeth, and in celebration of the birthday of her twin brother, Marshall Rikard.

Guests...WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church!

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us and pray that you will discover anew God’s love for you today. Please sign the Friendship Pad with your contact information when it is passed. Church members and staff would be delighted to provide you with more information about FPC.

Nursery Care Today: Joanne Lehman, Janelle Chubb **July 27:** Michele Murdoch
Elder/Diacon on Duty Today: John Abernathy, Vickey Dodge
Elder/Diacon on Duty July 27: Sheryl Smith, Margaret Joiner
Monitor/Greeter Today: Bill Lehman **July 27:** Floyd Hale
Acolytes Today: Henry Goodner, Ben Williams
July 27: Taylor Chubb, Alexander Roberson

Remember the following in prayer: Worth Kendall, Mary Tice, Shirley Burton, Beth Easley, Michele Horne, Rev. Dr. Barry Lambert, Keira Esposito, Ashley Platts, Nancy Lowery, Colleen Lathan, Jean Horton, Linda Bradshaw

Help for HOPE: During the month of July, we are asking for rice and rice mixes. Please consider bringing bags/boxes of rice and rice mixes (Zatarain’s, Rice a Roni, etc.) All brands and kinds (instant, wild, flavored, white, etc.) are welcome. Every bag or box is most appreciated by the recipients, as well as the volunteers at HOPE of Rock Hill, who are able to fill grocery bags for those in need. Please place your donations in the bin in the Narthex by **today**. Thank you so much for supporting our church wide effort to address the issues of hunger right here in our own hometown.

Jesus on the Move: There are copies of *Flat Jesus* on the table in the Narthex. Not everyone in the church is on social media and our sharing of *Jesus on the Move* and *Flat Jesus* pictures allows us to celebrate the ordinary and extraordinary of summer with our church family. Email them to the Church Office at firstpresrh@gmail.com or text them to Kara.

Mission Outreach Updates: We will be going to the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen on Thursday, July 24 at 10:00 am. Contact Wendy Blanchard to help. The HOP meetings will not meet the months of July and August.

Plentiful Harvest: Our next service opportunity at the Plentiful Harvest Kitchen (Covenant PC of Rock Hill) is Sunday, July 27. There will be two shifts: 2:00 – 4:00 pm & 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Contact Rob Joiner to register to help.

Rise Against Hunger: We will need close to 100 people to get our 15,000 meals packed on Sunday, August 17, beginning at 2:00 pm. This is a fun opportunity for children, youth, and adults to serve alongside each other. Watch for our sign-up list soon.

Our 2025 Montreat Weekend will be Friday, October 3 - Sunday, October 5. We have the SC Inn reserved for our church family and also the option of six apartments and the Carolina Suite. Full payment is due by October 1. See Kara to register and for info.

Dominican Republic Mission Trip: Pastor Lee will be taking a group from our church to the Dominican Republic on October 10-17, 2025 to Mission Emanuel – a Dominican/American partnership ministry focused on transforming a community through the power of Jesus Christ. If you are interested in going, speak with Pastor Lee at any time.



This QR Code may be used for all online contributions to the church. There is a 1% processing fee for Checking/ACH transfers and 3% for Credit Card transactions.

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, July 20

Family Promise Week

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Ladies Out to Lunch

Tuesday, July 22

8:30 am Walking Group
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

Wednesday, July 23

3:00 pm Celebration of Life for David Burton

Thursday, July 24

8:30 am Walking Group
2:00 pm Yarns of Love
4:00 pm Seniors Exercise Class

Sunday, July 27

9:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Ladies Out to Lunch
2:00 pm Plentiful Harvest at Covenant PC

Save the Date

August 3 – Blessing of the Backpacks will take place in 10:00 am worship.
August 17 – *Rise Against Hunger* mission event at 2:00 pm.
September 7 – Rally Day Breakfast; Worship moves to 11:00 am.

Members of the Session

Susan Roberson, Clerk

Class of 2025

Butch Bailey
Terry Dodge
Mimi Goodner
Mary Anne Sheppard
Chris Wheeler

Class of 2026

John Abernathy
Jimmy Campbell
Scott Harris
Elizabeth Owen
Susan Roberson

Class of 2027

Paul Horne
Ann Hunsucker
Chip Hutchison
Julia Nichols
Sheryl Smith

Members of the Diaconate

Christy Goodner, Moderator

Class of 2025

James Crean
Vickey Dodge
Christy Goodner
Diane Hicks
Sue Munn

Class of 2026

Jennifer Abernathy
Heather Dellinger
Kathy James
Margaret Joiner
Dave Keely

Class of 2027

Beth Janicke
Allen Katz
Joan Musselwhite
Steve Roberts

Deacons of the Month for June

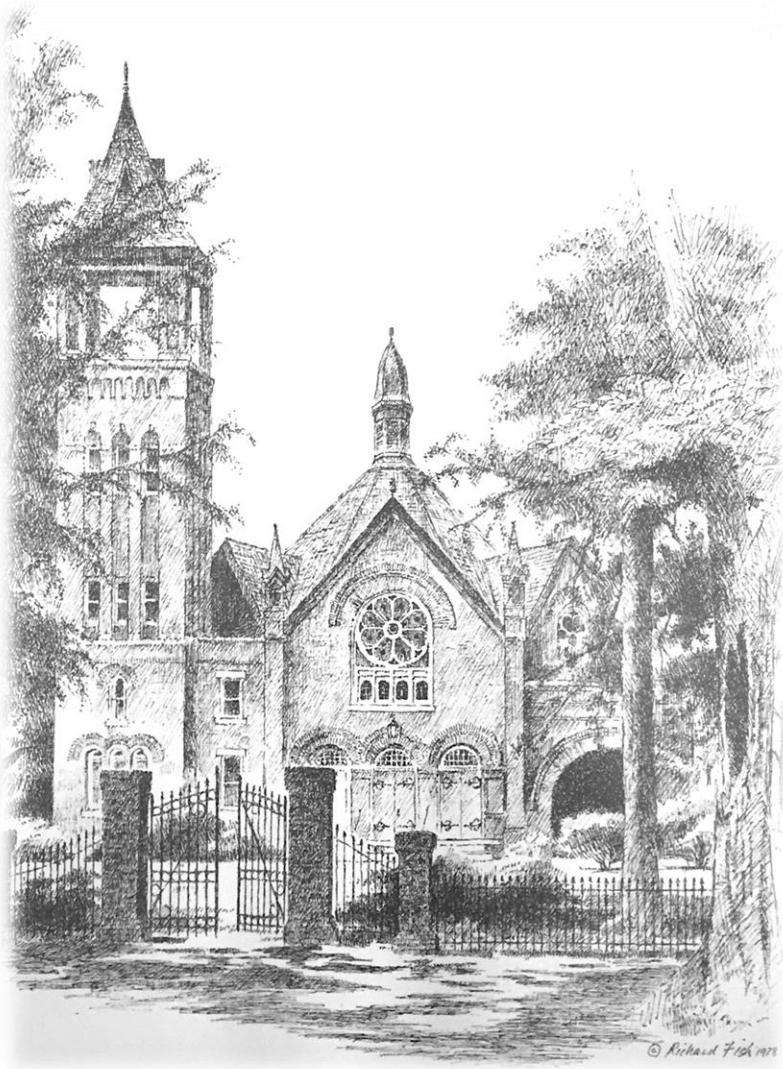
James Crean, Jennifer Abernathy, Beth Janicke

Church Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Office Staff and Contact Information

Jonna Eichorn - Administrative Assistant – jeichorn@fpcrockhill.org
Robyn Brown - Financial Secretary - rbrown@fpcrockhill.org
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First Presbyterian Church

234 East Main Street
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730
Organized 1869

We are a diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ, who seek to glorify God by celebrating and sharing God’s renewing and transforming love as we:

Worship the living God with joy and thanksgiving

Teach the Word of God to deepen our faith and grow in our love of Christ

Serve others through sharing our unique gifts of the Holy Spirit

Fellowship with one another to energize our life together as a congregation

Nurture and Embrace all of God’s children.

Dr. A. Lee Zehmer – Senior Pastor
Rev. Kara Wheeler – Director of Family Ministries
Dr. Donald M. Rogers – Director of Music
M. L. Marley – Organist
Angela Harris – Director of Cherub Choir
Ashley Platts – Director of Handbell Choirs